Time bound mineral Exploration Process

3420. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to commit itself to a time-bound minerals exploration process by setting timelines for grant of prospecting and mining licences and set up an independent mining tribunal to settle dispute resolution;

(b) if so, by what time final decision in implementing the Mineral Policy 2007 is likely to be taken; and

(c) what are its main other features?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY): (a) to (c) National Mineral Policy, 2007 which includes policy proposals on the need for time-bound grant of mineral concessions, setting up of independent tribunal, etc. is under consideration of the Government.

Contemplation of sub-plan for Muslim Community

3421. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating any sub-plan for Muslim Community on the lines of tribal sub-plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the measures contemplated in the light of the Rajendra Sachar Committee Report?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) The recommendations of the Sachar Committee are under consideration of Government.